

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising:
at least one server and a plurality of user stations, the user stations include terminals arranged to receive information from the at least one server via a first network;
storage means, coupled to the at least one server, holding a profile database, the profile database containing data representing a characteristic behaviour of an associated user identifiable by the user's terminal network address or addresses, wherein the at least one server automatically acquires such data in response to an activity of the associated user and storing the same together with the associated user terminal network address or addresses in the profile database;
wherein the user station further includes a portable communications device coupled with said terminal and communicatively coupled to the at least one server via a second network,
wherein the user terminal is configured to perform the automatic acquisition of data for the profile database, said data being transferred, for storage in the profile database, to the at least one server via said portable communications device following establishment of a connection via said second network.
2. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said portable communications device comprises a mobile telephone, said second network is a telecommunications network.
3. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first network is the Internet and the user terminals comprise at least a display device coupled with processing means hosting an Internet browser and user-operable means for control of the same.
4. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 3, wherein one or more of said terminals comprises a television receiver further configured to access and display data from the World Wide Web.

5. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the coupling between the portable communications device and the respective user terminal comprises a wireless link.

6. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 5, wherein data transfer via said wireless link follows a predetermined set of message transfer protocols.

7. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the portable communications device further comprises a buffer arranged to store data received from said the at least one server and addressed to the respective user terminal, and means for reading stored data from said buffer and sending said data on to the user terminal.

8. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, wherein a said portable communications device further comprises means configured to determine whether a respective user terminal is available to receive data from said the at least one server and, if so, to forward such data and, if not, to buffer such data until such time as either the respective user terminal becomes available or the buffer becomes full.

9. (Previously Presented) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 7, wherein a said portable communications device further comprises means configured to determine whether said the at least one server is available to receive data from a respective user terminal and, if so, to forward such data and, if not, to buffer such data until such time as either the server becomes available or the buffer becomes full.

10. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the or each said portable communications device further comprises the technical features of the respective user terminal.

11. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the coupling with said user terminal is by wireless transmission therefrom, and the portable communications device means for receiving wireless transmissions from the terminal are further configured to receive additional data transmitted wirelessly from other sources.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of data communication for use in a networked communications system including at least one server and a plurality of user stations, the user stations include terminals which can receive information from the at least one server via a first network, the method comprising:

providing a profile database, via the at least one server, which profile database contains data representing a characteristic behaviour of an associated user identifiable by the user's terminal network address or addresses, the data being acquired automatically in response to an activity of the associated user and being stored together with the associated user terminal network address or addresses in the profile database;

wherein the user station further including a portable communications device coupled with said terminal and connectable to the at least one server via a second network, the user terminal performs the automatic acquisition of data for the profile database, said data being transferred, for storage in the profile database, to said the at least one server via said portable communications device following establishment of a connection via said second network.

13. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 12, wherein said portable communications device comprises a mobile telephone and stored access data for establishing connection comprises a telephone number for said mobile telephone.

14. (New) A communication system comprising:
a server unit that includes at least one server;
coupled to said server unit, a plurality of user stations that each include a respective terminal arranged to receive, via a first network, information from the server unit;
coupled to said server unit, storage memory for holding a profile database; and

at least one portable communications device;
wherein a station, of plural user stations, is communicatively connected to a respective device of said at least one portable communication device; and
wherein the terminal, of the respective terminals, corresponding to said station is configured for automatically acquiring, in response to an activity of a user, data representing characteristic behavior of said user, said system being configured to perform the storing of the acquired data, together with the user's terminal network address or addresses, into said profile database by transferring said acquired data to the server unit via said respective device following establishment of a connection via a second network.

15. (new) The system of claim 14, wherein said system is further configured to perform said transferring to make a sales solicitation.

16. (new) The system of claim 1, wherein the transferring makes a sales solicitation.

17. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the transferring makes a sales solicitation.